

**IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA
IN THE OWERRI JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN AT OWERRI**

SUIT NO: FHC/OW/CS/¹²⁰...../2026

BETWEEN:

PROF. MAZI UDEGBULEM
(Chairman, Nigerian Bar
Association, Owerri Branch)

----- **PLAINTIFF**

AND

1. **THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES
NIGERIAN BAR ASSOCIATION**
2. **CHIDI B. NWORKA.**
(Leader of Requisitionists/
Committee Chairman)
3. **VICTORIA CHIOMA JOSHUA MONYE.**
(Requisitionists/committee Secretary)
(Standing trial before the LPDC).
(For themselves and as members of illegal
5-man committee constituted on 15/10/2026)

DEFENDANTS

ORIGINATING SUMMONS



LET THE DEFENDANTS of NBA Owerri Branch Bar Centre, Magistrate Court premises Orlu, Owerri, Imo State; within thirty (30) days after service of this summons on them, inclusive of the day of such service, cause an appearance to be entered for them to this Summons, which is issued upon the application of PROF. MAZI UDEGBULEM for the determination of the following questions:

1. WHETHER by virtue of the status of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) as an Incorporated Trustee registered under the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), its internal affairs, constitution, and Uniform Bye-Laws for Branches are binding on all branches, members, and organs, and whether any branch action contrary thereto is ultra vires, illegal, null, and void.
2. WHETHER by a proper interpretation of Article 11(4) and (5) of the Uniform Bye-Laws for Branches (Third Schedule to the NBA Constitution), requisitionists have the legal right or vires to unilaterally fix the date, time, and venue of an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) in their initial requisition letter, or unilaterally adjourn and shift the date of such meeting (from 10/10/2026 to 15/10/2026) without complying with the strict mandatory procedure empowering the Chairman through the Secretary to fix meeting dates.

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3. WHETHER in view of the active intervention and constitution of an official 3-Man Fact-Finding/Investigating Committee by the 1st Defendant (NBA National Body) to investigate the allegations against the Plaintiff, the concurrent constitution of a parallel 5-Man Committee by the 2ND & 3RD Defendants is not ultra vires, unconstitutional, disruptive, null, and void ab initio.
4. WHETHER the inclusion of members who actively signed the requisition letter/petition as members of the 5-Man Committee, together with a Secretary who is currently standing trial before the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Committee (LPDC) for professional misconduct, does not breach the fundamental principle of natural justice (*nemo iudex in causa sua* and *audi alteram partem*) and constitute a real likelihood of bias, thereby rendering the entire proceedings and findings of the 5-Man Committee null, void, and of no effect.

RELIEFS SOUGHT BY THE PLAINTIFF:

THE PLAINTIFF CLAIMS AGAINST THE 2ND & 3RD DEFENDANTS JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY AS FOLLOWS:

- a) **A DECLARATION** that the Nigerian Bar Association being a body corporate incorporated under the laws of Nigeria, its Constitution and Uniform Bye-Laws for Branches regulate the internal governance of its branches, and any deviation therefrom by branch members is null, void, and of no effect.
- b) **A DECLARATION** that under Article 11(4) and (5) of the Uniform Bye-Laws for Branches, the power to fix the date, time, and venue for an Extraordinary General Meeting pursuant to a requisition resides with the Chairman/Executive acting through the Branch Secretary, and the unilateral fixing and subsequent shifting of the meeting date from 10/10/2026 to 15/10/2026 by the 2ND, 3RD Defendants and other Requisitioning members is illegal, ultra vires, and a nullity.
- c) **A DECLARATION** that all decisions, resolutions, and steps taken at the purported Extraordinary General Meeting held on 15th October 2026 by the Requisitioning members including the 2nd & the 3rd Defendants are illegal, null, void, and of no legal effect whatsoever.
- d) **A DECLARATION** that the constitution of a parallel 5-Man Committee by the Requisitioning members which appointed the 2nd Defendant being their leader as Chairman of the Committee and the 3rd Defendant standing trial at the LPDC as secretary of the Committee to investigate

allegations against the Plaintiff—while the official 3-Man Committee constituted by the 1st Defendant (National Body) is actively seised of the matter—is illegal, contemptuous, ultra vires, null, and void.

- e) **A DECLARATION** that the composition of the 5-Man Committee, comprising signatories to the requisition notice and a Secretary currently facing disciplinary trial before the LPDC, offends the principles of natural justice and is infected with a real likelihood of bias, malice, and procedural impropriety.
- f) **AN ORDER OF PERPETUAL INJUNCTION** restraining the 2ND and 3RD Defendants, whether by themselves, their agents, proxies, or privies, from sitting, investigating, issuing any report, or acting on any report generated by the said illegal 5-Man Committee against the Plaintiff.
- g) **AN ORDER SETTING ASIDE** in its entirety the requisition notice, the proceedings of the meeting held on 15/10/2026, and all actions taken by the 5-Man Committee set up by the Defendants.

DATED THIS 20th DAY OF October 2026.




GODSON EMEKA NWACHUKWU ESQ.

(Counsel to the Applicant)

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3. VICTORIA CHIOMA JOSHUA MONYE: NBA Owerri Branch Bar Centre, Magistrate Court premises Orlu, Owerri, Imo State.

